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HAL AND BUCKY BOZOF HAVE FILLED THEIR RIVERFRONT HOME WITH TREASURES FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

PINNING A LABEL ON THIS BOLDLY handsome villa on the shores of the Caloosahatchee is as tough as catching a butterfly in its sun-dappled courtyard. The distinctive rosy terra cotta on the walls is neither a traditional sun country color nor a typical Southwest Florida hue. Inside, the blend of Spanish, Italian and Moroccan motifs create a décor that is as fascinating in its nonconformist character as it is admirable for its livability.

Don't try to pigeonhole the homeowners, either. Dr. Hal Bozof and his wife, Bucky, are longtime Fort Myers residents and working professionals who tore down the walls around them to create a new home for themselves and their recently adopted Chinese daughter, Alyson.

"We came here from Memphis in 1986 to establish a podiatry practice," Bucky, a registered nurse, says. "My husband had been to a wedding in Tampa a few years before and fell in love with Florida. After doing some exploring, Fort Myers turned out to be his favorite place."

The couple built their riverfront home in 1990. When the time came to update and

expand in 2005, they discovered it was smarter to start from scratch.

"We loved our location, and we weren't going to part with it," Bucky says. "We sat down with [architect] Bud Lawrence, whose work we admired, and he worked out a floor plan that gave us the privacy and practicality we needed."

Formal living rooms and family rooms were unwanted by this pair. They opted instead for a great room worthy of the name and a zebra-carpeted home theater. Their pool includes a lap sector and a Statue of Liberty model nearby. The library/office has a private, yet open, location in an exposed loft tucked above the kitchen.

"We weren't very familiar with the interior design aspect of the project," Hal admits, "so we relied on Bucky's good taste and the guidance of Faith Fix."

The Bonita Springs design pro approved of the gold Venetian plaster faux treatment the couple liked for the great room, but suggested a contrasting color be used in some spaces. The loggia and the fireplace areas were done in harmonizing bronze tones that provide more

By Caryn Stevens



Golden glow: The great room of the Bozofs' riverfront home offers a warm welcome.

The great room's French doors are an ideal complement to the rustic elegance of the heart of the home.



Worldly influences: Bucky, Alyson and Hal Bozof, opposite, chose Moroccan- and Spanish-inspired furnishings for their home.

RONALD DUBICK



definition and visual punch. The Bozofs shunned conventional stone flooring and embraced the concept of painted concrete. The gleaming floors reflect a rich fusion of cola brown, ruby and copper in most of the main-floor rooms.

"It takes a lot of steps to get those colors and that finish on the concrete," Hal explains. "We're happy



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with the look and pleased it's so easy to maintain."

THE GREAT ROOM NEEDED A different approach, however. "We wanted something warmer there," Bucky says, "so we selected knotty, rustic-looking plank flooring that we extended through the kitchen and put in the loft."

That's not the only wood they craved. Hal wanted the French doors that lead from the great room to the outdoor living area to be something special. He contacted a Baton Rouge firm that recycles old cypress.

The great-room doors are an ideal complement to the rustic elegance of the heart of the home. The Bozofs liked Fix's suggestion of a wine-colored, cut chenille, bent-armed sofa with North African flair. It faces the fireplace and two towering, hand-painted armoires from Brazil. A pair of chairs in a wine-colored leather

and a leopard-print easy chair complete the seating.

"The scroll design on the end table adds to the Moroccan theme," Bucky says, "and Molly [Kelly-Wooley], our artist, stenciled scrollwork on the great room arches to heighten the effect."

Just as snug in the mix are Venetian-style, globe-topped obelisks on the lion's head mantel and a fleur-de-lis leather banner in the foyer. While the style of the mantel is medieval, the source was quite modern, Bucky says. "I had to have lions, but we couldn't find them locally, so I got this online."

The crystal-beaded iron chandelier was a local find, however. Suspended from a height of 24 feet, its candle-like bulbs illuminate an ebony-fin-



Time to dine: Sitting areas include barstools in the kitchen, above, and a wood plank table with scrolled dining room chairs.

ished wood plank table and scrolled wood-frame chairs cushioned in brown leather. The family has dinner there, but breakfasts at a custom-built window bar the doctor had made in Baton Rouge. It's just big enough for the trio to sit comfortably and enjoy the river view.

They can have a pleasing painted view while sitting on the leather and metal bar stools that face the kitchen backsplash. There, a Tuscan countryside is painted on the tumbled stone below a hammered copper range hood. "Molly painted that for us," Bucky says. "She did a four-wall version of it for the pool bath, and also created a wide, scrolled border in the master bedroom."

THAT HANDIWORK ENHANCES faux-painted ruby walls and Moroccan-influenced furniture. "We loved the Moroccan personality of the bedroom pieces and the chaise," Bucky notes. "Faith had a beaded sari inset into the bedspread and suggested fringed tiebacks for the sitting area."

That bedroom floor is concrete, but the adjoining bath has slate. A



*"We loved the Moroccan personality
of the bedroom pieces and the chaise."*



Suite retreat: The Bozofs' master suite is finished in rich textiles and bold shades of red and gold.

slipper tub stands next to a multi-jet shower stall. Slate-gray cabinetry surrounds twin vanities topped with Carrara marble.

THE MASTER SUITE HAS ITS OWN wing. Down another corridor, the Bozofs created an island fantasy for their overnight visitors with a hand-painted, bird-embellished four-poster bed and an armoire from Brazil. The green, ragged walls are a becoming contrast to the embroidered silk floral drape-ry and banded spread.

Five-year-old Alyson's room has a pale, iridescent purple paint treatment on the walls. Butterflies and dragonflies dangle from the ceiling.

"We asked her what her favorite color for her room was when she was four, and she said 'curple,'" her father says with a smile. "We used it



for the paint treatment and in the banding on the bedspreads."

The parents wanted their daughter to have furniture she could grow with and use in the future, so the carved wood is mature. The cat lamp and art, reflecting her affection for the four resident cats, are perfect for a little girl.

A framed Moroccan prayer rug,

purchased when the couple went there, is among many souvenirs of global travels. The Bozofs say they've savored many destinations, but none more so than China. Bucky beams when she explains, "That's where Alyson, our greatest treasure, came from." ♣